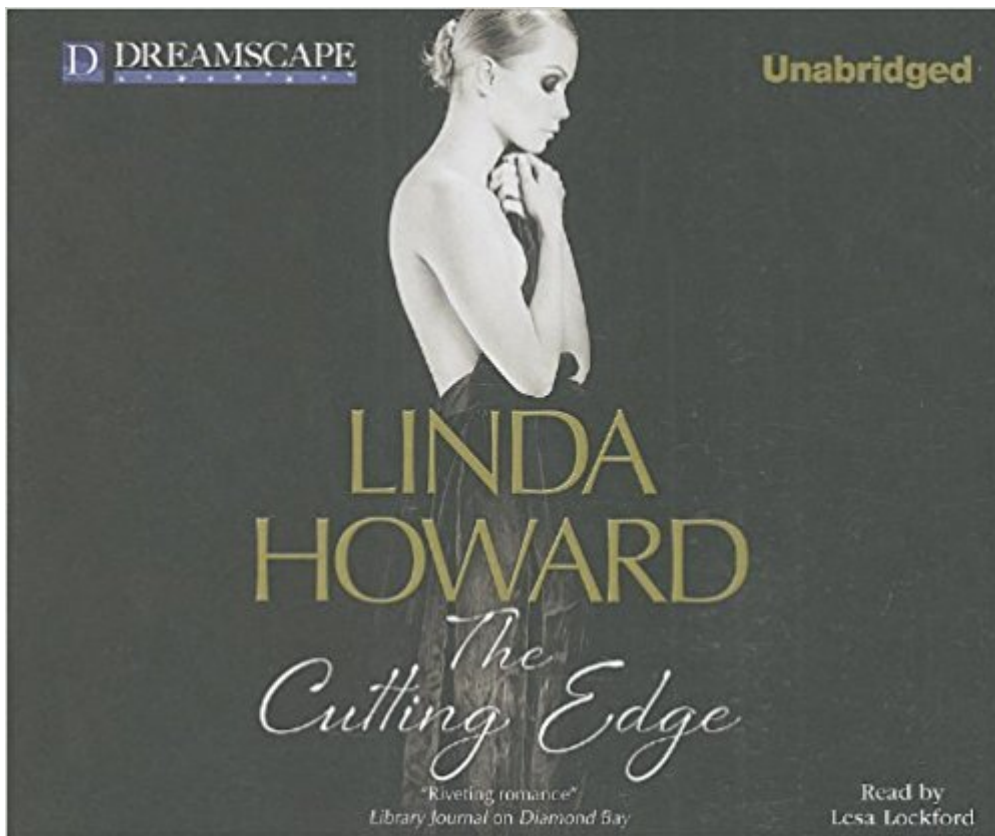




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# The Cutting Edge



## Synopsis

Can love survive the ultimate test? - Brett Rutland, Carter Engineering's top troubleshooter, is sent to the L.A. office to crack a case of embezzlement. Brett's a hard man, so it hit him like a sledgehammer when he fell in love with Tessa Conway. Half the men in the office had been in love with her for years, but Brett was the first she'd loved in return. Their love is perfect, too perfect to last. And when Brett discovers the identity of the embezzler, his whole world is about to come crashing down . . .

## Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Dreamscape Media; Unabridged edition (July 3, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1611206847

ISBN-13: 978-1611206845

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 75 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #5,250,215 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Books on CD](#) > Authors, A-Z > ( H ) > Howard, Linda #5490 in [Books > Books on CD > Romance](#) #15032 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged](#)

## Customer Reviews

Linda Howard is the award-winning author of many New York Times bestsellers, including Drop Dead Gorgeous, Cover of Night, Killing Time, To Die For, Kiss Me While I Sleep, Cry No More, Dying to Please, Open Season, Mr. Perfect, All the Queen's Men, Now You See Her, Kill and Tell, and Son of the Morning. She lives in Alabama with her husband and two golden retrievers.

Lesia Lockford is an Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre and Film at Bowling Green State University. She teaches courses in voice for the actor, dialects, acting, and performance studies. She is also a writer and performer. Before becoming a teacher, she was a professional actor in Great Britain where she appeared in a variety of roles in television, film, and on the stage. She trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.

While I would have given the original paperback 4 stars, I feel pretty upset since I already have it, and thought I was buying a NEW release. Shame on me for not looking more closely, but shame on

Linda Howard for not letting fans know this is a hard cover re-issue of an old paperback that cost about \$5 back in the day. Most authors are up front about re-issues in their promotional material. It's in there, but right at the end. I missed it. Buy the old paperback and save yourself some money.

An outstanding love story by Linda Howard. Filled with raw emotions, utter betrayal, and false conclusions, this is one book you don't want to miss out on. It's a must read!.....While working for Carter Engineering, troublemaker Brett Rutland was furious that an embezzler had stolen \$54,000.00 dollars from the company's funds. But who? Known always to be hard, cool, and totally in control, Brett was driving himself into the investigation, and wouldn't quit or budge, until the culprit was caught. With his sexual quality and his sensual eyes, Brett never had a problem getting a woman into his bed. For him, it was strictly one-night stands leaving with no promises or demands of any kind, that is, until he saw her....With a reputation for her sweet smiles, firm accountant Teresa "Tessa" Conway, was never in more shock when Brett Rutland asked her out to dinner. Always known for her mild flirtations, partying, and alluring smiles, Tessa found herself more serious when it came to the sexy man himself, because not only was she mesmerized by him but something about him scared her too. As the hours slowly progressed into days, Tessa was stunned by her own revelation in which she was falling in love and she didn't know what to do about it, or how to handle it, regardless of the repercussions. Should she tell Brett how she truly felt? Brett never felt anything towards a woman, the way he felt about Tessa, and he knew without a doubt that he had fallen in love but when some shocking news comes in, making Tessa a prime suspect, he does the one thing in the heat of the moment he never thought possible, and would later regret, by lashing out at her, and breaking her heart into tiny pieces and having her arrested. He turned his back on her, called her harsh and cruel names, and refused to take her calls, but most importantly, the ultimate betrayal! But when the truth is finally revealed, Brett realized he couldn't have been more wrong if his life depended on it. Vowing to plow through the cutting edge of his own betrayal, Brett is more determined than ever, to win back the trust, loyalty, and love, for the only woman he ever loved in this life or the next!.....I loved this book by Miss Howard....thank you...

I started to read this and per the style, flipped to the copyright page: this is a re-release of a 1985 book, and while I find some of Howard's older titles okay, the weak heroine/improbably hard male main character grated.

**FINAL DECISION:** A bit dated in its depiction of the alpha male who is immediately forgiven for his poor treatment of the heroine, this book is an average read. Having read it in the 1980s, I liked the flashback, but it is not particularly memorable.**THE STORY:** Brett Rutland is a troubleshooter at Carter Engineering. He is looking into an embezzlement case. Tessa Conway is an accountant with the company. Two failed engagements have taught her to keep her attachments light. She is friendly and flirty and everyone likes her. When Brett sees Tessa he is determined to make her his next conquest. Then he finds out that she is the prime suspect in the embezzlement.**OPINION:** This book shows its age a bit. Brett is an alpha male who is a jerk for much of the book. That is not unexpected in books of the era and not something that I often complain about. Unfortunately, I didn't feel that his character was defined enough to make him interesting and neither did he suffer enough for his treatment of Tessa. She forgives him far too quickly when he should have had to grovel for her forgiveness. The book just felt a big formulaic and average. I enjoyed the one time read, but probably won't pick it up again.**WORTH MENTIONING:** Howard has a bunch of these books where the hero thinks the heroine has done something wrong, treats her terribly and then realizes that he is wrong. As much of a jerk as Brett is, there are worse Howard heroes.**CONNECTED BOOKS:** *THE CUTTING EDGE* is a standalone.**STAR RATING:** I give this book 3 stars.

Another of my favorite Linda Howard romances. I read this years ago when I got the paperback( still got it) and am happy to see it in eBook. A keeper.

This was a very interesting book and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. There have been other Linda Howard books that I have liked better, hence the rating.

This is a Kindle reprint of an old Linda Howard book (1985?) and although a little outdated (garter belts and stockings! No cell phones!), it was still very enjoyable. No one can write "betrayal" romance like Linda Howard (i.e., *Loving Evangeline*, one of my favorites). Other critiques have given the story line, so I won't go there, but if you enjoy Linda Howard books, this oldie-but-goodie is a surefire winner.

I loved the original book. Some things shouldnt be made into manga. I wanted the text, i can't find it. Tried this one and it's one of the things i most regret buying. It's not even good quality manga in terms of the drawing. Composition is odd, timeline is off.. -sigh- I am so mad. I want my 7 dollars back. I worked an hour for that money.

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